



**For Immediate Release:
Tuesday, January 29, 2008**

**Contact: Bert Scoglietti
(302) 739-4206
(302) 233-2196 cell**

Governor's Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues Releases Report

Dover –The Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues released their Annual Report to the Governor and members of the General Assembly on Thursday, January 24, 2008. The report details the demographic, fiscal and development trends occurring in Delaware as well as policies and actions taken to date. The report also includes recommendations for future policy consideration by the Governor and the General Assembly to continue the work of planning for orderly growth and development.

“The Livable Delaware effort initiated by Governor Minner has enhanced the quality of life for all Delawareans by curbing sprawl and directing growth to areas where the State, counties and local governments are most prepared for it,” said Mark Brainard, Governor Minner’s Chief of Staff and Chair of the Governor’s Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues. “This report provides a comprehensive look at issues that will affect Delaware land use and investments both now and into the future. I would like to thank the staff for their great work on this project, led by Mike Jackson and his entire planning and fiscal staff as well as our partners at the University of Delaware led by Dr. Jerome Lewis.”

Among the recommendations contained in the report are the following:

1. Adopt legislation that continues to guide growth to areas prepared to accept it. This legislation would address issues such as:
 - Transfer of Development Rights
 - Mobility Friendly Design
 - Transportation planning
 - Design and location of public buildings

2. Further connect land use activity into the state budget process.
 - Develop a comprehensive set of livability indicators
 - Inventory State discretionary funding provided to local governments
 - Comprehensive plan fiscal note
3. Examine and re-evaluate state policies that impact development
 - Develop policies to withhold permits when development is inconsistent with plans
4. Train state employees to incorporate Livable Delaware principles into funding decisions
5. Enhance intergovernmental coordination efforts

“It is critical that state infrastructure investments are coordinated with local land use decisions and policies not only to guide development but to be ready when that development is at hand,” said Office of Management and Budget Director J.J. Davis. “Pursuing the recommendations contained within this report will certainly assist in that effort.”

The report was completed by the staff of the Office of Management and Budget with the assistance of the Institute for Public Administration at the University of Delaware. The full report can be found at the following website: www.omb.delaware.gov.